

## **Old Visa, New Passport**

My US visa currently has my maiden name, but I am now married and my passport has now been renewed with my new married name. Will my US visa still be valid for entry into the US or do I need to go to the US Embassy and apply for a visa in my new name?

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Many people are asking this question, as they replace their old passport with the new machine-readable passport – either because their name changes, or because their old passport has expired.

You may still use a valid visa in your old passport if the biographical information on your visa (full name, date of birth, place of birth, and nationality) is the same as the biographical data of your new, valid passport. If the information is still the same, just staple or clip both passports together, and when you arrive at the immigration officer in the US, you can present both passports at that time.

If, however, the biographical data on your visa is different from the biographical data of your passport, you will need to apply for a new visa. This is true even if your old visa has not expired yet.

You always need a valid passport to apply for a visa. As long as your current passport has not expired, you may use it to apply for a new visa.

Please note that you may not have two valid visas of the same class at the same time. If you apply for a new visa while your old visa is still valid, the old visa will be canceled without prejudice during the interview process (regardless of the outcome of the new visa application).

Please note that passport holders from Trinidad & Tobago do NOT need a passport that is valid for 6 months beyond the date of their visa application.

For more information on the nonimmigrant visa process, please visit our website at <http://trinidad.usembassy.gov>.

We hope this information is helpful.